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WORSBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1942.

BARNSLEY :
Hibbert, Ashton & Youel, Ltd., Printers, 12, Market Street,
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ANNUAL REPORT, 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Worsborough Urban District Council

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health Conditions of your district for the year ending December 31st, 1942.

On instructions from the Ministry of Health, the report has again been confined to essential matters and Statistical Returns only, and on grounds of National Security, no figures or tables of Local Populations are to be disclosed

Your Obedient Servant,

JEAN H. RITCHIE, M.B., Ch.B.

Medical Officer of Health.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

According to the Registrar General's figures :—

Total live births in the District : 246 (Males,121 ; Females, 125.)

Legitimate : 231 (Males, 112 ; Females, 119)

Illegitimate : 15 (Males 9 ; Females 6)

Live Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated population: 19.48

Still Births : 6.

Still Birth Rate : .475

Live and Still Birth Rate for the Year, 19.95

Deaths at all ages : 135 (Males, 80 ; Females, 55).

Death Rate for the year : 10.689.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes, 0.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year : 14 (Males 10, Females 4).

Legitimate : 13 (Males 10, Females 3)
Illegitimate : 1 (Males 0, Females 1).

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 live births : 56.91.

Deaths from Cancer	19
Measles	0
Whooping Cough	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0

England and Wales.

	1940	1941	1942
Death Rate	14.3	12.9	11.6
Birth Rate	14.6	14.2	15.8
Infantile Mortality Rate	55.0	59.0	49.0

Worsborough District

	1940	1941	1942
Death Rate	12.00	9.48	10.69
Birth Rate	20.80	15.49	19.48
Infantile Mortality Rate	59.47	70.70	56.91

Causes of Death in 1942.

Disease	Male		Female
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	—	0
Scarlet Fever	0	—	0
Whooping Cough	0	—	0
Diphtheria	0	—	1
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	0	—	3
Tuberculosis (other forms)	0	—	0
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	0
Influenza	1	—	1
Measles	0	—	0
Cancer	11	—	9
Diabetes	0	—	1
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	8	—	7
Heart Disease	22	—	7
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	—	1
Bronchitis	2	—	1
Pneumonia	5	—	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	—	0
Ulcers of Stomach or Duodenum	1	—	0
Diarrhoea	0	—	0
Appendicitis	0	—	0
Other Digestive Diseases	3	—	3
Nephritis	2	—	2
Premature Birth	0	—	2
Congenital, Malformatory	3	—	1
Suicide	0	—	0
Accident	1	—	1
Other Violent Causes	9	—	1
All Other Causes	7	—	9
Total	80		55

Infantile Mortality

14 Deaths (10 Males and 4 Females) occurred amongst infants under 1 year, making the Infantile Mortality 56.91, which is 13.79 less than the year 1941. This is a considerable improvement but it is still too high, being 7.91 higher than the Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales.

Efforts are being made to bring about even more satisfactory results.

Cerebro Spinal Fever

There were 5 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever and 1 death. This is not excessive as this disease is often prevalent in war time.

Measles and Whooping Cough

There were 96 cases of Measles and 137 cases of Whooping Cough notified during the year.

The incidence of both of these diseases subsided towards the end of the year. There were no deaths from either Measles or Whooping Cough.

Diphtheria Immunisation

11 Cases of Diphtheria have occurred, and one was fatal.

None of the 11 cases had been completely immunised. Approximately 80% of the Children between 5 and 15 years of age have now been immunised, and it is hoped to raise the percentage still more in the near future.

Scabies

There was a reduced number of cases of Scabies reported during the year and the few cases notified were promptly dealt with so far as it was possible to do so. In one case only was it necessary to remove the children of one family to hospital for treatment.

The scheme for treatment of Scabies is now working smoothly, and is as follows :—

> Cases from Schools or Clinics are reported by the Health Visitor, or the doctor in charge of the Clinic, to the M.O.H. who then investigates re contacts and home conditions. Any other cases found are then referred to their own doctor or to the clinic for treatment. Where stoving of the house is necessary this is carried out and the house kept under observation for a period.

Child Welfare Centres

4 Centres are now established in the Worsbro' Area, viz : 1 at Blacker Hill, 1 at Worsbro' Dale, 1 at Birdwell, and 1 at Worsbro' Bridge.

These clinics are well attended but the work amongst the infants is handicapped by the absence of the school medical officer, who is on war duties. All school children requiring medical advice are sent by the teachers to the baby clinc for attention.

There are also 4 ante-natal clinics and the services at these are quite satisfactory.

Air Raid Precautions

The number of personnel, part and full time, of practically all services has been greatly reduced, caused by members being called up for the Army. New volunteers are being directed to fill the gaps by the Ministry of Labour, and now 48 hours a month is compulsory for stand-by duty, and members are to keep up to a high standard of efficiency.

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR THE HEALTH SERVICES.

Ambulance Facilities

A. (1) **Fever :** arrangements with the Wath, Swinton and District Joint Hospital Board, to remove all cases to Hospital.

(2) **Small Pox :** do. do. do.

B. **For Accidents, etc., and Non-Infectious Cases.**
Motor Ambulance provided by the Council.

Particulars supplied by the Surveyor :—
No. of Patients using the Ambulance during the year 1,136
No. of Miles travelled 7,825
Cost of Ambulance per day .... £1 10s. 11d.

Nursing in the Home

Nature of Arrangements in the district :—

(a) General :—Private Association known as the "Cooper and Worsborough District Nursing Association" (partly endowed) provides two qualified nurses for the "Necessitious Poor" for treatment in their own homes for the whole district. During the year the Nurses made 4,630 visits to patients' homes and 154 new cases were treated. Of these visits 1,713 were for Public Assistance and Old Age Pensioners, and 104 visits were paid to Notifiable cases.

(b) Infectious Diseases :—None.
Midwives controlled by the County Council.
Laboratory Facilities :—Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations are carried out by the County Council.

Public Shelters

The 18 Public Shelters in the district have been inspected periodically and found generally satisfactory.

Salvage Report for the Year ended 31st March, 1943.

Material Collected	Amount sold T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£	s.	d.	In Stock Tons	Cwts
Waste Paper	53	3	1	0	226	4	6	2	0
Scrap Iron	11	10	0	0	25	6	0	5	10
Scrap Tins	43	5	1	0	47	15	2		10
Glass Cullett	24	8	0	0	18	6	0	5	0
Rags	4	10	0	0	49	10	3		4
Bones	2	6	0	0	8	15	2		6
Bottles and Jars	5	7	0	0	16	16	7	—	—
Non-Ferrous Metals	1	4	1	1	29	17	7	—	—
Rubber	5	7	2	0	13	16	4	—	—
Totals	151	1	1	1	436	7	7	13	10
								Approx. Value £28/9/6	

These figures, though higher than the previous year, are low and represent approximately only a weight of 5 lbs. and a value of 2/6 per household

Collection of Waste Food

The collection of waste food is proceeding on the same lines as previous years viz :—The weekly collection of waste food by pig-keepers from bins loaned to them by the Council at a cost of 1½d. per bin per week.

67 bins are in use.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply

There have been no complaints with regard to the main Water Supply for the district.

Drainage and Sewerage

No additions or alterations have been made during the year.

With the exception of a few houses situated on the outskirts of the district, the dwelling houses are properly drained and connected with the public sewers.

Closet Accommodation

Only two privies have been converted into chemical closets during the year, and one additional closet provided.

No. of Privies converted into w.c.'s in 1942	No. of waste w.c.'s converted into w.c.'s in 1942	No. of additional closets provided for old property	No. of w.c.'s constructed for new houses	No of closets in district at end of 1942.		
				w.c.'s	waste w.c.'s	Privies
Nil.	Nil.	1	Nil.	2961	143	149

Scavenging

No. of Ashpits emptied	2314
No. of Dustbins emptied	150010
No. of Loads removed	3532
Deposited on land	62
Deposited on tips	3470
Salvage loads	882
Total cost of scavenging for the year	£2716 (approx)

NUISANCES.

Total Number of Inspections made in 1942 — 198.

Cause of Nuisance	No. of Notices served		No. of Notices Complied with
	Informal	Statutory	
Choked and Defective Drains	21	3	23
Flooded Cellar	1	1	2
Defective Eaves Gutters	2	1	3
Cesspool overflowing	1	1	2
Nuisance from Rats	5	—	3
Dilapd. Privy-middens	1	2	3
Defective W.C.'s	5	1	5
Nuisance from Smoky Flue	1	—	1
Dirty Premises	7	3	9
Verminous Premises	5	2	7
Leaky Roofs	2	—	2
Worn out Dust Bins	6	5	11
Nuisance from keeping Fowls and Pigs	3	1	3
Accumulation of Rubbish	2	1	3
Def. Sink waste pipes	2	—	2
Nuisance from Burst Water Pipes	3	—	3
Overcrowding	1	—	1
Totals	68	21	83

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND MEATSHOPS

	No. of Inspections	Conditions
No. of Bakehouses on Register 3	36	Clean and Satisfactory
No. of Offensive Trades (Fish Frying Only) on Register 18	72	Clean and Satisfactory
No. of Slaughterhouses on Register 10	140	One slaughterhouse only now in use as a meat distributing depot. Conditions are quite satistory
No. of Factories on Register 17	85	With the exception of Barrow Coal & Coke Co. and Longley's Timber Yard, none of these premises are extensive. Conditions are satisfactory

HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1) Total Number of Dwelling Houses inspected for Housing Defects (Under Public Health and Housing Acts) 353

Total Number of Inspections made for the purpose 497

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated regulations 353

(3) Number of Dwelling Houses needing further action :—

(a) No. considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation 1

(b) No. found not to be in all respects fit for habitation 34

(4) No. of Dwelling Houses rendered fit as a result of informal action taken by Local Authority or other Officers 29

(5) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 16 of Housing Act, 1936

(a) No. of Dwelling Houses rendered fit after service of formal notices

By Owners (including 1 outstanding from 1941) 6

By Local Authority in default of owners 0

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 12 of Housing Act, 1936 :—

1 house closed

OVERCROWDING.

Only six new cases of overcrowding have been reported during the year, but there is no doubt that overcrowding is on the increase.

Previous to the war, fifty houses were required annually to meet the normal growth of the district, but during the war years no new houses have been erected. Consequently at the end of 1942, I estimate that we are 150 houses in arrears on this account alone.

On the other hand, there has been no influx of new residents or evacuees from other districts, and in view of the Registrar General's estimate of the population, which shows a slight decrease, and the fact that so many former inhabitants are now away serving in the forces, I lean to the opinion that the total amount of overcrowding at present in this district is not serious.

The exact position, cannot be ascertained without the aid of a complete survey of the district

Such a survey however, if it were to be made at the present time, would only tend to confuse and mislead, since it could in no way clarify the position as regards the amount of overcrowding which will exist in the district after demobilisation on the termination of hostilities.

There are no available vacant houses in the district.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases during the year 1942.

Age Period	NEW CASES			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
0 to 1				
1 to 5				1
5 to 15			2	2
15 to 25	1			1
25 to 35				
35 to 45	1	2		
45 to 55		1		
55 to 65	1	1		
65 & over				
	3	4	2	4

Statement of Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year 1942

	Cases Notified or otherwise ascertained																							Cases removed to Hospital				
				Enteric Fever													Malaria											
	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria (including Mem. Croup)	Typhoid	Paratyphoid	Acute Pneumonia (primary or influenzal)	Puerperal Pyrexia	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis	Acute Polio-Encephalitis	Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery	Opthalmia Neonatorum	Erysipelas	Respiratory Tuberculosis (New Cases only)	Other Forms of Tuberculosis (New Cases only)	Contracted in this country	Contracted Abroad	Induced in Institutions	Chickenpox	Measles (excluding German Measles or Rubella)	Whooping Cough	Other Diseases	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Other Diseases (please specify disease)
Civilians	—	18	11	—	—	29	1	5	2	—	—	—	—	7	7	6	—	—	—	—	96	137	—	—	18	11	—	4 Cerebro Spinal 2 Pneumonia
Non-Civilians	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT INSPECTION (1942)

There are ten Licensed Slaughterhouses in the district. One slaughterhouse at Worsborough Dale is used for the distribution of the Meat Allocation for the District, and one at Worsborough Bridge is Earmarked for use in connection with the Treatment of Food in case of Contamination by Poison Gas.

The remaining slaughterhouses have been used only occasionaly for the slaughter of Cottager's Pigs, under licenses issued by the Ministry of Food.

The whole of the Meat Allocation for Worsborough is received from the Government Regional Slaughterhouse in Barnsley and is distributed to the retail butchers of the district from one slaughter-house situated in Worsborough Dale.

The amounts of English meat received during the year were as follows :-

Sides of Beef	-	489.
Sheep	-	919.
Pigs	-	26.
Calves	-	81.

During the year 103 Cottager's Pigs (Slaughtered under License granted by the Ministry of Food) for the rearers own use were inspected.

The following Foodstuffs were condemned :-

3 Pig's Plucks.
1 tin cooked ham (6 lbs.)
1 tin cooked pork (7 lbs.)
1 tin cooked pork luncheon meat (6 lbs.)
61 lbs. jam.
4½ lbs. butter.
1 shoulder mutton.
186 eggs.

MILK SUPPLY

Milk & Dairies Orders.

Summary of the Registers :-

Number of Milk Producers	- 24.
Number of Milk Retailers	- 25.
Number of Retailers (not cowkeepers)	- 9.
Number of Wholesalers	- 7.

One producer licensed for the production of Certified Tuberculin Tested Milk.
One vendor licensed licensed to retail Pasteurised milk.
Six vendors licensed to retail Accredited milk.
There are 42 cowsheds in the district, and approximately 280 cows are kept .
Samples of milk are taken regularly by the County Council for bacteriological examination, and samples for sediment tests are taken by the Health Department.